QUARTERLY SOUTHERN COLORADO WORKING GROUP

Prepared by Chris DeGaray, USAG Fort Carson Executive Officer

14 JAN 2015, 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Las Animas County Courthouse, Trinidad, Colorado

AGENDA

- Introduction New Working Group Members
  - Fort Carson
  - Community
- Garrison Commander Opening Remarks
- Purpose
- Update Line of Effort Initiatives & Engagements
  - Training
  - Community
  - Stewardship
- Due outs & next meeting schedule

GARRISON COMMANDER OPENING REMARKS

PURPOSE

- Ensure synchronization and coordination of on going military, civilian and local community efforts in the southern Colorado region
- Establish initiatives and tasks to be accomplished in the southern Colorado region

LINES OF EFFORT

- Training
- Community
- Stewardship

TRAINING LINE OF EFFORT UPDATE (DPTMS)

- Cultural Awareness DVD- Version 1 completed
  - Commanding General talking points to be recorded following the Change of Command in the spring. (Version 2)
  - Intend to add SHPO talking points in the future.
  - Trying to place it on the Public Website for awareness and viewing.

- Cultural Resource site protection
  - Purchased 300 boulders to enhance protection of eligible sites.
  - Plan to re-use boulders from renovated erosion control dams.
  - Requesting additional 200K for Site Protection resources

- Repair of Maneuver Damage from 2/4HBCT exercise
  - 2/4ABCT assembly area along MSR will managed as a limited use area until re-analyzed this spring/summer.

Community LOE Way-ahead

3 DEC
Mt. Carmel Holiday Open House (Soldier engagement w/local Veterans & residents) (Trinidad)

14 JAN
Southern Colorado Engagement Working Group (Garrison Cdr & Support Staff) (Trinidad)

30 JAN
Military Appreciation Day at the State Capitol (Commanding General or designated rep., and Support Staff) (Denver)

4 MAR
2014 Fort Carson Good Neighbor Induction Ceremony & Luncheon (Fort Carson)

16 MAY
Armed Forces Day Parade (Soldier & Equipment support) (Trinidad)

11 JUNE
Fort Carson Vietnam Vet Welcome Home Ceremony

4 JUL
Pueblo West 4th of July Wet & Dry Parade (Soldier & Equipment support) (Pueblo West)

22 AUG
State Fair Parade (Soldier & Equipment support) (Pueblo)

11 JUL
(T) Mt. Carmel Festival (Soldier & Equipment support) (Trinidad)

23 AUG
Colorado State Fair Military Appreciation Luncheon (Pueblo)

"Best Homet … y – Home of America's Bes

STEWARDSHIP LINE OF EFFORT UPDATE

DEIS Status and Upcoming Actions

- Purpose and need: Readiness training using emerging tactics and new equipment. Integration of ground and air resources
- Mitigation actions may be required to avoid or reduce impacts to PCMS resources
- Public comment period ended 15 Dec. Comments are being reviewed
- Proposed edits to Final EIS and comment responses are being drafted (present)

- Notice of Availability (NOA) for Final EIS (March)
- 30 day public waiting period after NOA is publish in Federal Register
- Record of Decision (ROD) anytime after the public waiting period

STEWARDSHIP LINE OF EFFORT UPDATE

Programmatic Agreements – Annual Reports

Fort Carson Built Environment

- Proposed amendments forthcoming – include addition of select areas and off-post facilities

Fort Carson Military Training and Operational Support

- Combine with Built Environment PA
- Baseline monitoring complete in FY15
- Mitigation projects initiated in FY15

PCMS Military Training and Operational Support

- Update of Appendix 2 ongoing
- Baseline monitoring – 150 sites in numbered TAs in FY15

STEWARDSHIP LINE OF EFFORT UPDATE

Other Consultation Topics

Follow-up to 2/4 BCT training exercise and Hogback graffiti incident:

- Seibert marking complete in primary maneuver area; remainder of numbered TAs first priority for additional marking
- Added Seibert markers at 5 meter intervals to many of the entered sites
- Resolved Tribal Site of Concern question with Jicarilla Apache Nation
- Digital maps complete, maps have been distributed to BCTs
- Met with 4 Tribes to discuss graffiti incident
  - AR15-6 Investigation
  - Improved restricted access with new gate and signage
  - Initiated development of individual Tribal agreements regarding site access and protection
- Cultural Awareness Video

STEWARDSHIP LINE OF EFFORT UPDATE

HogBack Protection Gate & Fencing. Dismounted Training ONLY from this point

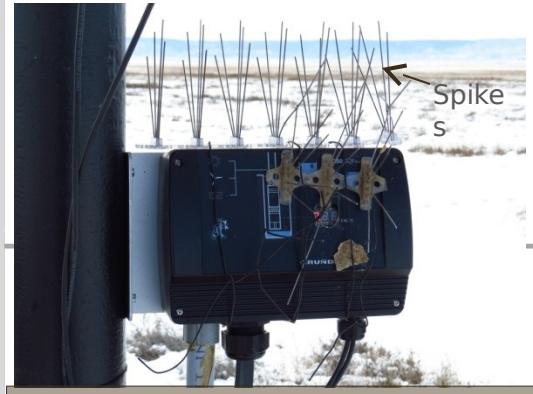
Wildlife Updates

Covering open pipes to prevent bird entrapment

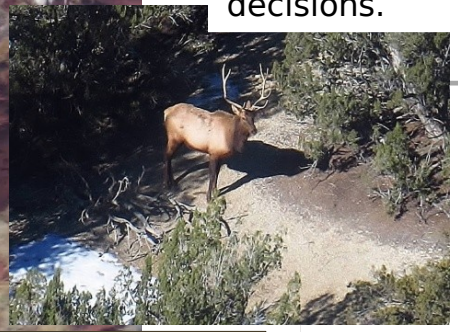
Starting to survey for wintering burrowing owls

PCMS Hunting Program:
Educating hunters, collecting B&C sheets, preparing for hunting management meeting (CP&W)

Note: The B&C (Boone & Crockett) score is the size of the antlers/horns. This data is important for management decisions.



Installing bird deterrent spikes on wells' automatic on/off switches to prevent further damage from ravens



Two day big game aerial survey completed

Wildlife Updates

2014 Burrowing Owl & Prairie Dog Survey has been completed.

Acoustic Monitoring: Trial devices deployed. This summer they will be used for grassland bird and bat surveys.

2015 PCMS EARTH·DAY

Planning for this annual event is underway....

Well contractor completed work on 7 new wells , including the placement of new tanks, solar pumps, on/off switches, pipes and escape ramps. *Note: There are now 31 working wells, 3 stand alone tanks, 5 guzzlers and 10 pipeline tanks.*

STEWARDSHIP LINE OF EFFORT UPDATE

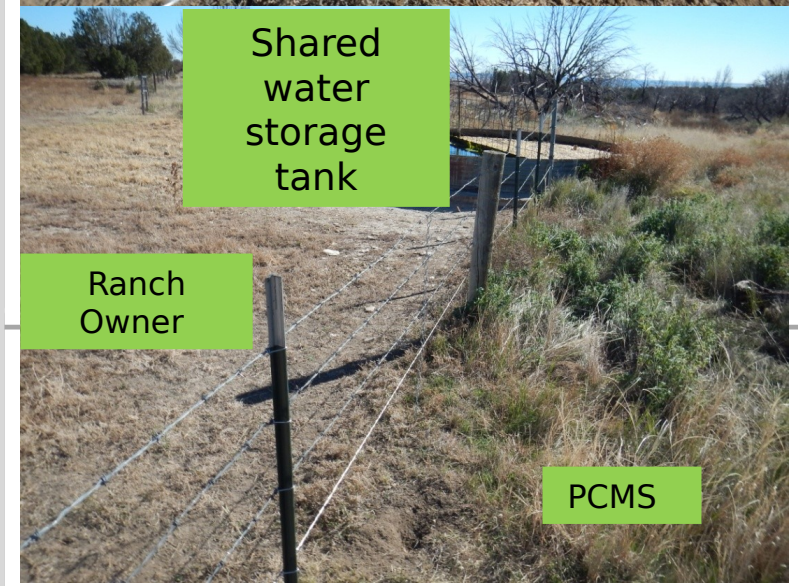
North perimeter fence line repaired. *Note: bottom wire strand is smooth wire for wildlife*

Steel “H” braces designed and installed to not burn during future wildfire events.

Shared water storage tank

Ranch Owner

PCMS



Perimeter fence completed mid December 2014

REVIEW OF DUE OUTS/WAY-AHEAD

- Commander's Guidance
- Review Due Outs
- Date, time and location of next meeting of the working group:
  - Next meeting: MAY/JUNE 2015